

During my recent four and a half month trip through the Far East I contacted a great number of scholars, journalists, educators, and government officials whose daily concern is the problem of international communism. My conversations with them led me to a greater awareness of the fact that some of them have real contributions to make to the study of this most important problem of our time. Too often these people are deprived of the opportunity for unceasing research and independent analysis, or of the possibility of exchanging viewpoints and findings with others in the field throughout the world. I was also made acutely aware of the urgent necessity for providing a means of evaluating and judging the proliferating, irresponsible newspaper reports with their biased accounts and misleading information which may be attributed to propaganda or prejudice. These have played a considerable rôle in influencing public opinion, policy-making and policy decisions, as well as influencing the attitudes of public officials who may have direct responsibility in the handling of long-range as well as immediate problems emanating from communist bloc countries or the forces of international communism.